



I, as a member of the committee on the Moffett Memorial Projects, make an earnest appeal to all concerned for the completion of the Moffett Memorial Auditorium in Seoul.

The late Dr. Samuel A. Moffett was a pioneer missionary, who became a father of the strongest Christian community centering on the City of Pyeng Yang. He organized hundreds of churches, established many schools of various grades including a Christian College and Theological Seminary. He was a charismatic personality among Korean Christians. In view of commemorating his life and work and for continuing of the work that Dr. Moffett had left for us to carry on, the Committee conceived the Project of the Memorial Auditorium and made notable advance in the construction. But the construction of the building has been suspended now at about forty percent progress due to the lack of funds. As I feel the project is worthy, as well as a needy one in the new environment at the ancient Capital, I entreat your favorable consideration of this presentation.

L. George Paik

Sincerely yours,

L. George Paik, President-Emeritus
Yonsei University
Seoul, Korea

It gives me great pleasure to say two comments about the plans for building The Moffett Memorial Hall, Seoul, Korea.

First, a comment on the late Reverend Dr. Samuel A. Moffett, often called "the father of the Presbyterian Church of Korea."

As one of the earliest Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. missionaries to Korea, he pioneered in evangelism and education with tremendous energy and effectiveness. His life, as a follower of Christ, was lived for others.

Second, a comment on this building. We all sense that God has guided us to do "this thing", to provide for the whole Church a much needed, large, centrally located Chapel-Auditorium for great gatherings.

I strongly believe that, once completed, this Moffett Memorial Auditorium will be the site where many people will be blessed and strengthened for the Church and Nation.

Stanton R. Wilson

Stanton R. Wilson
Commission Representative
United Presbyterian Church, U. S. A.

He came to us with love and the Gospel, and awakened us from our sleep, wept with us in our sorrows, gave us hope in our despair.

Ogkil Kim

Ogkil Kim, President
Ewha Woman's University
Seoul, Korea

Let me Congratulate you on the efforts to erect a fine building as a memorial to Dr. Samuel A. Moffett, a pioneer missionary to Korea, who was a great man. May you be blessed in your efforts.

John E. Talmage

John E. Talmage, Field Secretary
Southern Presbyterian Mission
Seoul, Korea

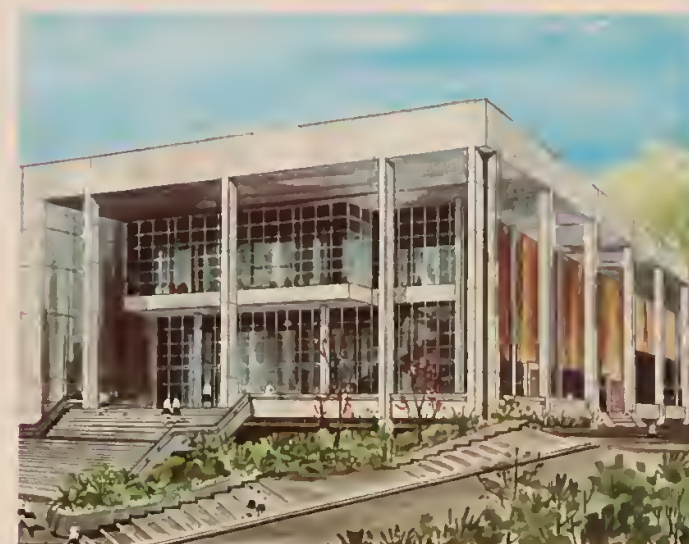
BUDGET FOR THE HALL

Total Estimate..	: \$947,250
Actual Expenditure	: \$281,750
Estimated further costs for completion	
Building	: \$470,000
Furniture	: \$112,500
Heat & Cooling System	: \$83,000
Total	\$665,500

MAIL TO: Office for liaison with East Asia
Rm. 1144 P, Program Agency
United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
475 Riverside Dr.
New York, N.Y. 10027

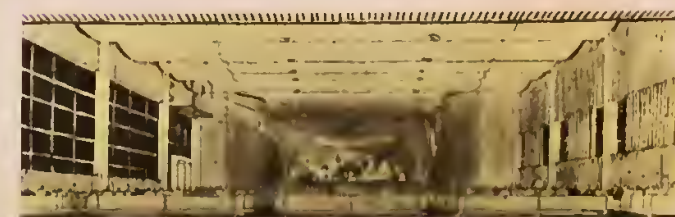
PAYABLE TO: Program Agency
For Samuel A. Moffett Memorial
Committee, Seoul, Korea

SAMUEL AUSTIN MOFFETT MEMORIAL HALL



View of Moffett Hall

DR. SAMUEL A. MOFFETT MEMORIAL COMMITTEE SEOUL, KOREA



Interior perspective of the Hall

Except a corn wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. (John 12:24)

NATURE & PURPOSE

The Moffett Memorial Hall will have a large auditorium in which about 3,000 people can be accommodated. Such a large meeting place certainly is needed for the whole Christian community in Seoul city, for although there are 1,700 churches in this city as yet there is no place for a union meeting.

When the Hall is completed all kinds of big gatherings will be able to meet here: Evangelistic, Educational, Music, Drama and other Christian cultural activities.

On the ground floor Moffett Memorial Library will be established which will contain Christian books and related literature. It is a great regret that there has been no such library in Korea which provides for our people resources in regard to the Christian religion and its great heritage.

We also hope to have a small room which will commemorate Dr. Moffett's life by exhibiting the personal effects of his daily life.



Scene of groundbreaking ceremony of the Hall



Brief Biography of Dr. Samuel Austin Moffett

Samuel A. Moffett, pioneer missionary to northern Korea, was born in Madison Indiana, on January 25, 1864. He graduated from Hanover College in 1884, earned his M.A. in 1885.

In April, 1889, he was appointed a missionary to Korea by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions and landed in that country, at the age of 26, on his birthday, January 25, 1890, only five years after the arrival of the first Protestant Missionary. It was still forbidden for foreigners to reside in the interior or propagate a foreign religion. But as early as August, 1890, Moffett began to explore northern Korea for a possible base of missionary operations.

He chose the ancient capital, Pyeng Yang, as the most promising center and permanently settled there in May, 1893. By the following January he had baptized his first converts and laid the groundwork for a remarkable explosion of church growth which soon made Korea "one of the miracles of the modern missionary movement".

Combining personal evangelism with far-sighted plans for a supporting network of Christian schools, he assisted in founding Soong Sil (now Soong Jun University) College and Academy, and became legal founder of some two hundred church-related schools in 1903.

Dr. Moffett is famous in Korea as founder of the Presbyterian Theological Seminary (1901), President of Soong Sil College (1918-28), and first Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Korea at its constituting presbytery in 1907. In 1919 he was elected Moderator of the General Assembly.

After 46 years of pioneering service in Korea, Dr. Moffett was ejected from the country in 1936 by Japanese militarists who tried in vain to force him to condone Shinto shrine worship. He died in Monrovia, California on October 24, 1939. The government of the Republic of Korea posthumously honored him in 1963 with its order of Cultural Merit, but the Korean Church hopes now to honor him with a more fitting memorial high on South Mountain in the center of the capital city, Samuel A. Moffett Memorial Hall.

I think that the plan for building a Memorial Hall in honor of Dr. Samuel A. Moffett is a wonderful thought and the best way to hold this great man in memory for long years to come.

His contribution of service to this country and the Church was great. There was a small Memorial Hall erected in his name in Pyeng Yang where he first began his mission work, but now it is in Communist hands.

It is necessary, therefore, to have a Memorial Hall here in Seoul at the school which he also founded earlier Pyeng Yang.

Christians and the number of churches have increased in Korea since and a place is needed where many can gather together for various activities.

The Memorial building can serve this very purpose.

I, therefore, step forward to ask everyone to support this significant and God-blessed construction.

Kyung Chik Han

Kyung Chik Han
Chairman, Board of Directors,
Samuel A. Moffett Memorial Committee
Pastor-Emeritus, Young Nak Presbyterian Church

After reading Dr. Samuel Moffett's biography, I cannot help but shed tears of joy. Dr. Moffett's great accomplishments have certainly won great respect from the Korean people. Therefore, his efforts will remain forever. Dr. Moffett has given us a real faith to believe and he has given our people a ray of hope. He has also helped greatly in achieving Korean independence. He certainly lived in the light of the teachings of Jesus Christ and he taught the Korean people what he practiced. He will remain as a bright morning star in the midst of our people forever.

Ik Joon Kim

Ik Joon Kim
General Secretary
Samuel A. Moffett Memorial Committee

Letters to the Editor

Interpretation

Dear Sir,

In connection with the 1919 Independence Movement, let me cite an American missionary who has performed many heroic deeds in the cause of Korea. He was the late Dr. Samuel A. Moffett, who came to Korea on the same steamer as Marquis Park Young-hyo when the latter returned home from exile in Japan. Dr. Moffett started his missionary work in Pyongyang in 1894.

Korean King Kojong, permitted him to make a special trip to Pyongan-do and Hamkyong-do, both now in north Korea, for his mission work. Really, he was king of the Protestant Kingdom of Pyongyang.

In 1919, Japanese authorities called him to the police station, and told him to help them in crushing Korea's independence movement. But he rejected their request, insisting that he came to Korea for Gospel's sake, not to become involved in political affairs.

A few days later, many foreign newspaper reporters, wearing arm-bands of "war correspondent," arrived in Korea from Japan, Peking and Shanghai, and swarmed into

Pyongyang.

At that juncture, Dr. Moffett's role in Korea's independence movement was as an interpreter for the foreign newspaper reporters. A few days later, Japanese authorities began to receive telegrams from their superiors, saying that distribution in Korea of "so-and-so" foreign newspapers should be suppressed, in which news of the Korean cause was reported by foreign correspondents.

I was too young to know names of the suppressed papers. But, as far as I remember, they include the Japan Advertiser, Japan Chronicle, and Shanghai Gazette.

Within a few years, three famous books were published in England and in America, namely, "The Rebirth of Korea" by Heung-woo Cynn, "The Case of Korea" by Henry Chung, and "Korea's Fight for Freedom," by F.A. MacKenzie. Those works were all based on the telegrams of foreign correspondents who dispatched stories on Korea's movement. Those three works were indebted to the role of Dr. Moffett's interpretation.

Yours sincerely,
Song So-am

Chungsin-dong
Chongno-gu, Seoul

"Korea Times"
Wed, Mar 5, 1969

